



Department of
Toxic Substances
Control

*Preventing
environmental
damage from
hazardous waste,
and restoring
contaminated
sites for all
Californians.*



State of California



California
Environmental
Protection Agency

Fact Sheet, May 2007

Environmental Investigation at the Former Turco Products Facility

Para información en español por favor comuníquese con Leticia Hernandez al número (714) 484-5488 o al 1(866) 495-5611 y oprima el número 4.

We are notifying you of an environmental investigation taking place at the former Turco Products/Purex facility at 24700 South Main Street in Carson. Turco Products, Incorporated (Turco) processed industrial and janitorial chemicals at this facility from 1960 through 1989. The property was purchased by the current owner, Pedro First LLC, in 2000 and is now used for warehousing and distribution of non-hazardous goods.

Environmental samples were recently collected from below ground on the Turco property. The results indicate vapor concentrations of volatile organic compounds (VOCs) that could pose a potential risk to human health if the soil vapors get into enclosed buildings and are inhaled for extended periods of time. VOCs are chemicals commonly found in solvents, degreasers, petroleum compounds and other industrial products.

The VOC soil vapors (or soil vapor plume) are currently observed below ground within Turco's property boundaries. However, additional sampling will be conducted to determine if some of the vapor plume below ground extends beyond the Turco property into adjacent residential areas.

The Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC) is the lead agency overseeing the investigation at the Turco facility. Based on the results of its investigation, DTSC will evaluate the risk to public health and determine the need for cleanup measures. If cleanup measures are warranted, DTSC has authority to direct the responsible parties to undertake the necessary cleanup until the risk is reduced to acceptable levels.

Community Meeting

May 31, 2007

Open House 5:00pm-6:30pm

Presentation: 6:30pm-7:30pm

The project team will be available after the presentation to answer questions and discuss the environmental investigation.

Carson Community Center

Carson-Dominguez Room

801 East Carson Street

Carson, CA 90745

For information on accessibility or to request reasonable accommodations, please call Jeanne Matsumoto at (714) 484-5338 one week before the meeting.



Previous Environmental Investigations

Previous investigations indicate that VOCs were spilled into the ground as a result of past operations at Turco. As they moved through the ground, some of the VOCs vaporized, filling the air spaces within the soil. This resulted in the soil vapor plume that exists on the site.

Some of the VOCs made their way to the water table located 75 feet below ground, thereby contaminating the groundwater. The nearest drinking water wells are located 1,600 feet to the southwest and 1,000 feet to the south of the facility. These wells are more than 200 feet deep, and are upstream of the present contamination. More investigation is required to characterize and understand the full extent of groundwater contamination.

Recent Sampling Results

The current owner recently collected 58 soil vapor samples from depths between 5 to 15 feet below the surface within the facility. In addition, shallower soil vapor samples were collected below the slab of the existing buildings onsite. Preliminary results indicate elevated VOC concentrations that require further investigation and evaluation.

When soil vapors underlie an enclosed building, a small portion of the vapors may enter the building through cracks and openings in the floor slab. Depending on building ventilation conditions and other factors, the vapors may accumulate and reach concentration levels that pose a potential human health risk.

Next Steps

The next phases of work will determine if the soil vapor plume extends beyond Turco's boundaries. In addition, indoor air samples will be collected inside the facility buildings to evaluate the risk to workers. The results of these activities will be used to decide if more sampling is needed or if immediate measures are required.

Possible cleanup measures for mitigating the VOC vapor plume below ground include removing the contaminated soil, removing the vapors from the soil, placing a vapor barrier below a building, providing ventilation to the soils beneath the building, increasing ventilation within the building, or using a combination of these methods.

Other Planned Investigations

More investigation activities are planned for the next several months to characterize the full extent of contamination and gather information for designing the comprehensive site cleanup. These include installation

of groundwater and vapor monitoring wells, and collection of more soil, groundwater and soil vapor samples.

Where to Find Project Documents

Documents related to the site are available for your review at the following locations:

Carson Regional Library

151 E. Carson Street
Carson, CA 90745-2797
Phone: (310) 830-0901

Department of Toxic Substances Control

5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
Mon-Fri 8:00am-5:00pm
Please call (714) 484-5337 for an appointment

Who to Contact at DTSC for Information:

If you have any questions about the project or proposed cleanup activities, please contact the following persons:

Robert Romero, Project Manager
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
(714) 484-5316
E-mail: romero1@dtsc.ca.gov

Jeanne Matsumoto
Public Participation Specialist
5796 Corporate Avenue
Cypress, CA 90630-4732
(714) 484-5338
toll-free 1(866) 495-5651 and press option 4
E-mail: jmatsumo@dtsc.ca.gov

For Media Inquiries:

Jeanne Garcia, Public Information Officer
1101 N. Grandview Avenue
Glendale, CA 91201-2205
(818) 551-2176 E-mail: jgarcia1@dtsc.ca.gov

Notice to Hearing Impaired Individuals

You can get information by using the California Relay Service at 1-888-877-5378 (TDD). Ask to speak to Jeanne Matsumoto, DTSC Public Participation Specialist at (714) 484-5338 or the toll-free number 1(866) 495-5651 and press option 4.